



29 November 2012

FY13 Call for LDRD Proposals

Total Funding Available: \$900,000

In this FY2013 inaugural year, all LDRDs will be “mid-year” starts, i.e. funded in and expended by **30 September 2013**.

Overview of LDRD

LDRD projects are compelling, mission-oriented, team research. The primary objectives are to stimulate R&D innovation and creativity that directly support our mission, enhance the research activities to help maintain the Laboratory's scientific and technological vitality, and build capacity to respond to rapidly *emerging R&D opportunities of clear potential benefit to DOE's mission*. See Director's Message 10-26-2012.

LDRD funding cannot provide additional support for a currently funded program, nor purchase of new equipment to support funded efforts. See *LDRD Overview and Supporting Documents* (covered during LDRD Town Hall Meeting on 10-29-2012) and *LDRD funding areas and their descriptions and restrictions*. <http://www.ameslab.gov/ldrd>

Areas Considered for Funding (and their % of total):

- 1) (~20%) **Novel Projects**
- 2) (~20%) **Exceptional Opportunities** (e.g., *Spedding Post-Doctoral Fellow* – helping acquire our future talent and leadership)
- 3) (~60%) **Strategic Initiatives** – *to build novel efforts for*
 - a. Center for Rare-Earth and Energy-critical Materials
 - b. Materials Discovery, Design, Synthesis & Processing (both experimental and theoretical, including applied math)
 - c. Catalyzing a Greener Future
 - d. National Center for Solid-State NMR Sciences

Only the best and most relevant LDRD pre-proposals will be invited for full proposals, and, of those, only a select number will be funded – so above estimated percentages are guidelines only. Necessary equipment to perform the LDRD work should be budgeted.

Please consult with your program office to get the appropriate burden and overhead rates in your budget.

Process for Pre- and Full-Proposal

In FY13, one-page LDRD pre-proposals will be accepted on the 13th of each month through May 2013 to permit at least one quarter of funding, for example, for validation or proof-of-concept effort.

A compliance screening and request for full proposal will be made (if possible) within 10 business days after submission. Upon receipt of full proposal a review will be completed, and final funding decision determined by lab director, with final approval by the Ames Lab site office. (See “review and selection process”.)

Completing a LDRD Project Datasheets

A LDRD Project Datasheet is required for all LDRD submissions, and no pre- or full-proposal will be considered without it. The budget should be estimated with full overhead. For FY2013, self-assign a *Project Identifier* FY2013-ID#-R#, where ID# is first three letters of PI last name and R# is the submission day given as a four-digit number with two-digit month and day (e.g., for Jan 03, R# is 0103).

Required for Pre-Proposal

For LDRD Pre-proposal, the lead PI should complete a LDRD Project Datasheet, and also provide a 1-page technical description of proposed work (with figure, if needed), equipment required, personnel to be support, and detailed yearly budget. Either the PI or Program Office submit two PDF files (named *FY2013-ID#-R#-Datasheet* and *FY2013-ID#-R#-PreProposal*) attached to an email sent to LDRD@ameslab.gov with *Subject: LDRD submission FY2013-ID#-R#*.

Required for Full-Proposal, if requested

For LDRD Full-proposal, submit an LDRD Project Datasheet (updated if needed), a completed PPF form, and proposal (4- to 5-pages). Address the items stated in the *LDRD Proposal Requirements*, which are also reflected on the *Scoring Worksheet for LDRD Proposals*, see supporting documents on the LDRD website (bottom of page).

Either the PI or the Program Office submits two separate PDF files (named *FY2013-ID#-R#-Datasheet* and *FY2013-ID#-R#-Proposal*) attached to an email sent to LDRD@ameslab.gov with *Subject: LDRD submission FY2013-ID#-R# FULL proposal*.

Notice for Funded Proposals

LDRD funds are fully burdened; hence, the expectation is that the program will fully administer the project and provide the LDRD coordinator with information as need for oversight.